

Remarks

Restriction Requirement

In the above-identified Office Action, the examiner has issued a restriction requirement and requires election of one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- Group I: Claims 1-26 and 55-75, drawn to a method/system for land-based distribution of permeate, classified in class 210, subclass 170 or 747.
- Group II: Claims 27-41, 76-87 drawn to system for disaster relief, classified as class 137 subclass 561R+.
- Group III: Claims 42-54, 88-100 drawn to system/method for mitigating environmental impacts of desalination, class 422 sub class 900.
- Group IV: Claims 101-159, drawn to a vessel comprising a water purification system, classified in class 210, subclass 259.
- Group V: Claims 160-181, drawn to method of producing permeate on a floating structure, classified in class 210, subclass 747.
- Group VI: Claims 182-188, drawn to computer readable medium, classified in class 700, subclass 95.
- Group VII: Claims 189-198 and 225-234, drawn to system/method for energy production, classified in class 60, subclass 203.1.
- Group VIII: Claims 199-207 and 235-244, drawn to combination of energy production and desalination, classified in class 60, subclass 203.1 and class 210 subclass 747.
- Group IX: Claims 208-224 and 245-256, drawn to apparatus and process of a vessel (ship) having a tank in combination with desalination, classified in class 114, subclass 74R and class 210 subclass 747.

Applicants hereby elect without traverse Group I (Claims 1-26 and 55-75), drawn to a method/system for land-based distribution of permeate, classified in class 210, subclass 170 or 747.

Species Election

In the Office Action, the examiner has also issued a species election requirement. According to the examiner, the claims are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species. In the Office Action, the examiner grouped the species into six different groups (i.e., groups A, B, C, D, E, and F) according to particular themes and required election of a single species group from A-D and F, a single species from the elected group, and from group E, one tank material and tank paint. The examiner further required identification and election of the claims belonging to the elected species. The groups and their respective species, according to the Office Action, are as follows:

Group A Transportations:	tug barge/vessel floating pipeline sea floor stabilized/embedded railroad trucking airborne/sea plane/helicopter store of disaster provisions transfer vessel means
Group B Dispersion Systems:	divergent apertures extending discharge member floating hose catenary above water level below water level surrounding propulsion device moving dispersion devices mixing tank
Group C Noise Reduction:	pipng encasement vibration dampeners
Group D Power Generation:	propulsion device electrical device windmills heat recovery pressure recovery

would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amy A. Ostrom Ph.D.

Registration No. 52,088

RUDEN McCLOSKEY, SMITH,

SCHUSTER & RUSSELL, P.A.

222 Lakeview Avenue

Suite 800

West Palm Beach, FL 33401-6112

Telephone: (561) 838-4539

Facsimile: (561) 514-3439

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